

**Re: Request for Access to Anglo Saxon Placer to conduct wetland delineation**

**Sabrina Forrest** to: Tom Warlick

09/27/2011 07:01 PM

From: Sabrina Forrest/R8/USEPA/US  
To: Tom Warlick <Anglo-Saxon@cox.net>  
Cc: Jennifer Lane/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Daniel Heffernan/R8/USEPA/US@EPA

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Hi Tom, I sincerely apologize for not responding to this email earlier. I have had this in my "draft" box for too long and just found that I had never sent it. Thanks for confirming access to your lands to conduct the wetlands delineation. We will share the results when they are finalized.

More in depth human health and ecological health risk assessments are done after a site gets put on the NPL. At this time, the site/sources of contamination primarily present an ecological threat. The site likely won't score as high as some other sites in our region and in other regions. Sites with greater risks to human health and the environment necessarily receive greater funding; however, if the community and state believe that Superfund resources would benefit a comprehensive cleanup, then we will get regular incremental funding to work on the site. We have been working with increasingly tightened budgets, and we can't tell what the future will bring. Perhaps there will be enough funding to put together a non-NPL cleanup, but all the parties need to come together to make that happen.

Jennifer Lane and I were in Silverton all of September 12-16 having meetings with town board, county commissioners, locals, business owners, etc. We also had two input sessions and attended the ARSG meetings and tour. We heard many of the same concerns you have raised. Of note, the county commissioners and some town board members want to go visit nearby communities to hear from their leaders how Superfund has helped or hindered them and bring back some of those communities representatives to a forum in Silverton. We will be in touch as those details get figured out. I appreciate all your thoughts on the funding and other aspects of Superfund involvement. All discussion is valuable and I encourage your continued involvement and input.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Forrest  
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
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Tom Warlick ---08/23/2011 01:49:19 PM---Sabrina, This is to confirm that you have my permission to access the Anglo-

From: Tom Warlick <Anglo-Saxon@cox.net>  
To: Sabrina Forrest/R8/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 08/23/2011 01:49 PM  
Subject: Re: Request for Access to Anglo Saxon Placer to conduct wetland delineation

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Sabrina,

This is to confirm that you have my permission to access the Anglo-Saxon Placer site to conduct delineation and verification investigations in relation to the EPA's HRS evaluations. Please advise me of the results of the evaluation study as soon as they are available.

Attached is an overlay of the claims I own (tinted yellow) which includes the Anglo-Saxon Placer. I have a high degree of confidence that the actual location of the property is very close to the location depicted on the overlay.

My comments on the Superfund question:

At last Thursday's meeting I asked if any evaluation of the potential risk to human health from the Cement Creek high metals loading levels had been done. The answer, as I understood it, was that no such evaluation had been done at this point but would be done (at least a preliminary study) before the decision of whether or not the site should or should not be added to the Superfund list is made.

The purpose of my question was to attempt to get some idea of where Cement Creek might be ranked on the NPL in relation to the other Superfund sites already on the list within the Denver region. My concern is that if the threat to human health of the metals loading in Cement Creek is ranked very lowly, then the anticipated additional funding that might be expected from being added to the Superfund list would actually never be fully realized, because sites considered to be a greater threat to human health would soak up available funds long before they got down to Cement Creek on the list.

Given the current atmosphere in Washington regarding the federal budget deficit, I think we can anticipate that government funding is going to become much tighter over the foreseeable future, and EPA will not be immune from that tightening. Thus, Superfund budgets are not likely to even keep up with inflation, let alone be

substantially increased any time soon.

Before any decision is made regarding Superfund designation of Cement Creek, the community should have a relatively good idea of where it will be ranked for funding purposes and whether or not significant amounts of money will really be made available thru the Superfund program. The incremental new funds reasonably expected based on a real world, unbiased funding projection must be greater than the negative economic impact to Silverton of having a Superfund site "in your back yard".

I look forward seeing you next time I'm in Silverton.

Tom Warlick

On 8/22/2011 6:29 PM, [Forrest.Sabrina@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Forrest.Sabrina@epamail.epa.gov) wrote:

RECORD OF COMMUNICATION

Mr. Warlick, Thank you very much for taking my call today and for attending last Thursday's meeting in Silverton regarding EPA's data from last fall's sampling effort. I hope the meeting was informative and if you have any questions, please feel free to email or call me.

I would like to confirm via this email message that I spoke with you today at approximately 4:10 pm (Mtn) regarding EPA tasking our Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) contractor and a subcontractor to conduct delineation and verification of wetland vegetation that supports EPA's Hazard Ranking System (HRS)

work documentation. START was able to mobilize to Silverton this week and has identified the Anglo Saxon Placer as an area they need to access to document the presence of wetlands.

This email is also documenting my request, and your verbal approval for EPA contractors' access to the Anglo Saxon Placer so they may conduct wetlands study in support of EPA's HRS work. Their work will not be intrusive.

Once the study's report is finalized, EPA will be able to share the report with you, other identified landowners, and stakeholders with the Animas River Stakeholders Group.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me or call me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Forrest  
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